

FACULTY OF MUSIC UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

OPERA DIVISION

C 90-71;72

# Opera Excerpts

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Friday, November 23, 1990

Saturday, November 24, 1990

MacMillan Theatre

8:00 pm

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PROGRAM

**The Elixir of Love**  
**Scene from Act I (in English)**

**Gaetano Donizetti**  
**(1797-1848)**

Nemorino  
Adina  
Belcore  
Giannetta

November 23  
Timothy Stiff  
Rebecca Poff  
Brett Polegato  
Hélène Ouellette

November 24  
Jeff Wiseman  
Sally Dibblee  
Brian Nickel  
Hélène Ouellette

**Stephen Ralls**, Musical Director  
**Michael Albano**, Stage Director  
**Don Tarnawski**, Pianist

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**Così fan tutte**  
**Act I; Scene 2 (in Italian)**

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**  
**(1756-1791)**

Fiordiligi  
Dorabella  
Don Alfonso  
Guglielmo  
Ferrando

November 23  
Adele Kozak  
Karen Olinsky  
Jeffrey Carl  
Sean Watson  
Tsvi Taub

November 24  
Sonya Gosse  
Catherine Duff  
Brett Polegato  
Randall Jakobsh  
Gregory Carpenter

**Richard Fisher**, Musical Director  
**David Walsh**, Stage Director  
**Mark Morash**, Pianist

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**La Bohème**  
**Act IV (in Italian)**

**Giacomo Puccini**  
**(1858-1924)**

Marcello  
Rodolfo  
Schaunard  
Colline  
Musetta  
Mimi

November 23  
Russell Braun  
Robert Hennig  
Marcos Pujol  
Randall Jakobsh  
Rebecca Poff  
Sonya Gosse

November 24  
Jeffrey Carl  
Nils Brown  
Sean Watson  
Brian Nickel  
Sally Dibblee  
Shelagh Tyreman

**James Fraser-Craig**, Musical Director (Nov. 23)

**Peter Bergamin**, Musical Director (Nov. 24)

**David Walsh**, Stage Director

**Stephen Ralls**, Pianist

\*\*\*Intermission\*\*\*

**The Rake's Progress**  
**Act III; Scene 2**

**Igor Stravinsky**  
**(1882-1971)**

Tom Rakewell  
Nick Shadow  
Voice of Ann Truelove

November 23  
Brian Nickel  
Oliver Dawson  
Sally Dibblee

November 24  
Martin Houtman  
Russell Braun  
Sally Dibblee

**Richard Fisher**, Musical Director

**Constance Fisher**, Stage Director

**Stephen Ralls**, Pianist

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**I Capuleti E I Montecchi**  
**Scene from Act II (in Italian)**

**Vincenzo Bellini**  
**(1801-1835)**

	<u>November 23</u>
Giulietta	Sally Dibblee
Lorenzo	Brett Polegato
Romeo	Marianne Bindig

<u>November 24</u>
Maggie Brockington
Brian Nickel
Stephanie Petropoulos

**James Fraser-Craig**, Musical Director (Nov. 23)  
**Peter Bergamin**, Musical Director (Nov. 24)  
**Constance Fisher**, Stage Director  
**Mark Morash**, Pianist

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**Bluebeard**  
**Act III; Scene 1**

**Jacques Offenbach**  
**(1819-1880)**

	<u>November 23</u>
Bluebeard	Gregory Carpenter
Popolani	Randall Jakobsh
Boulotte	Catherine Duff
Heloïse	Larissa Szepetyk
Rosalind	Karen Olinyk
Isolda	Maggie Brockington
Blanche	Stephanie Petropoulos
Leonora	Hélène Ouellette

<u>November 24</u>
Oliver Dawson
Marcos Pujol
Marianne Bindig
Larissa Szepetyk
Karen Olinyk
Maggie Brockington
Stephanie Petropoulos
Hélène Ouellette

**Peter Bergamin**, Musical Director (Nov. 23)  
**James Fraser-Craig**, Musical Director (Nov. 24)  
**Michael Albano**, Stage Director  
**Don Tarnawski**, Pianist

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**Idomeneo**  
***Placido è il mar, andiamo***

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**  
**(1756-1791)**

November 23  
Chorus of the Opera Division  
Sally Dibblee, soprano

November 24  
Chorus of the Opera Division  
Rebecca Poff, soprano

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**Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg**

**Richard Wagner**  
**(1865-1931)**

**Quintet and Chorus**  
**Chorus of the Opera Division**

November 23  
Sonya Gosse, soprano  
Marianne Bindig, mezzo-soprano  
Martin Houtman, tenor  
Nils Brown, tenor  
Russell Braun, baritone

November 24  
Adele Kozak, soprano  
Karen Olinyk, mezzo-soprano  
Robert Hennig, tenor  
Oliver Dawson, tenor  
Randall Jakobsh, baritone

**Peter Bergamin**, Musical Director (Nov. 23)  
**James Fraser-Craig**, Musical Director (Nov. 24)  
**Stephen Ralls**, Pianist

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## NOTES

### **The Elixir of Love**

**Donizetti**

In the first scene of the opera, Adina, a wealthy and beautiful landowner entertains her friends and employees by telling them of the legend of Tristan and Isolda in which the knight wins the lady's affection by means of a wonderful elixir. Nemorino, a young man of the village, is in love with Adina who appears remote and disinterested. His hopes have been even further crushed by the appearance of a dashing Sergeant Belcore. While Adina has few initial smiles for the military, Nemorino takes advantage of the sudden visit of a certain Dr. Dulcamara and procures from the old quack a bottle of "love-potion" which he is assured will work the desired effect. As the magic liquid (a bottle of cheap wine) takes effect, Nemorino's spirits soar dramatically. Adina is astonished to find her swain so suddenly merry. Feeling sure that the potion will bring the lady to his feet, Nemorino pays no attention to her, which piques her so much that when Sergeant Belcore returns to renew his suit, she consents to wed him that very day.

### **Così fan tutte**

**Mozart**

Two army officers, Ferrando and Guglielmo, are engaged to the lovely sisters Dorabella and Fiordiligi. Their cynical friend Don Alfonso, believing all women faithless, makes a wager that if his instructions are followed, he will prove his point. The deceit begins as Don Alfonso announces that the officers are to leave for the wars and the couples unite in an emotional farewell.

### **La Bohème**

**Puccini**

Rodolfo and Marcello are found in their cheerless attic bemoaning the absence of the fickle Musetta and the apparently faithless Mimi. Schaunard and Colline join them, bringing a little food, and they all dance gaily to keep up their spirits. In the middle of a mock duel which follows, the door bursts open and Musetta enters in the utmost agitation, announcing that Mimi waits below with hardly enough strength to climb the stairs. All four men help the fragile, half-frozen girl to a bed. When Rodolfo and Mimi are finally left alone, the girl wistfully recalls their first happy days together and seems to fall peacefully asleep.

## **The Rake's Progress**

**Stravinsky**

Having served Tom faithfully for a year and a day according to agreement, Nick brings him to a gloomy churchyard where he reveals for the first time who he really is and demands Tom's soul in payment. He produces a knife, rope, poison and gun and tells Tom to choose one of these with which to take his own life. While Tom is paralysed with fear, Nick decides to prolong the torture and offers Tom a game of cards. Tom must guess three cards Nick will choose at random. If Tom wins he is free; if not, he dies. Tom guesses the first card correctly, the Queen of Hearts. The second card, to Nick's annoyance, he also guesses by a lucky chance. For the last card, Nick tries to trick Tom by palming the first card again. As Tom is desperately wondering what choice to make, the voice of his former sweetheart comes to him out of the past and he makes the correct choice. Nick has lost his prey, but with what remains of his power, he condemns Tom to insanity.

## **I Capuleti E I Montecchi**

**Bellini**

Although the literary source for Felice Romani's libretto is unknown, it is apparent that it is not derived from Shakespeare's renowned tragedy. In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, the story of the ill-fated young lovers enjoyed a remarkable diffusion and period popularity. In her bed-chamber, attired for her marriage to Tebaldo, Giulietta muses on an unhappy future. When Romeo enters (having been guided to her chamber by the sympathetic doctor, Lorenzo) the lovers lament their fate. Romeo begs Giulietta to flee with him but she refuses to disobey the wishes of her father. When music is heard from the banquet hall announcing the marriage festivities, Romeo repeats his plea but Giulietta is adamant in her filial loyalty.

## **Bluebeard**

**Offenbach**

Offenbach's *Barbe-bleu* (*Bluebeard*) was first performed at the Variétés in Paris in 1866. The same illustrious cast which had ensured the phenomenal success of *La Belle Hélène* took part. The legendary Hortense Schneider played Boulotte and Dupuis played Bluebeard. Meilhac and Halévy, librettists of *Carmen*, provided the text for this and fifteen other Offenbach works. Gilles de Resz, a monstrous child-murderer of the fifteenth century, was the inspiration for Charles Perrault's gruesome fairy-tale, *Bluebeard*. In the operetta, he is a light-hearted libertine. The court alchemist, Popolani, is required to despatch each wife as Bluebeard tires of



her. Instead he gives them soporifics and thus assembles a harem of his own. In Act III, Scene 1, Bluebeard brings his latest wife, Boulotte, to be put to death. She confesses to a few casual peccadilloes hoping that Bluebeard will spare her. Popolini goes through his customary chicanery and Boulotte awakens to be greeted by her five predecessors. She leads them in a cry of "Resurrect" and "Up the Dead and Down the Living!" The operetta has a singularly tidy dénouement: Bluebeard marries off his six wives to the six ex-lovers of the Queen of Brittany.

### **Idomeneo**

**Mozart**

After fighting in the Trojan War, Idomeneo, King of Crete has set off for his homeland. On the voyage, the fleet is ravaged by a fearful storm. To appease Neptune, Idomeneo vows to sacrifice to him the first creature he meets on his native shore. The first to greet him is his son, Prince Idamante. To escape the terrible duty of killing his own son, he decides to send him to Argos with Agamemnon's daughter, Electra. She is in love with Idamante and is transported with happiness.

### **Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg**

**Wagner**

Hans Sachs, the poet-cobbler, has given his blessing to the union of Eva and Walter, welcomed Magdalene and promoted David into the ranks of the Mastersingers. Led by Eva, the five rejoice at the dawning of new hope and love and depart for the song festival. The entire populace of Nuremberg has assembled to greet the Mastersingers. When Sachs appears, all join in a chorus of acclaim and affection -- the text of which is based on verses written by the poet in 1523.

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## OPERA DIVISION

Musical Director  
Head Coach & Conductor  
Stage Directors

Music Staff

Co-ordinator  
Administrative Secretary

JAMES FRASER-CRAIG  
MICHAEL EVANS (ON LEAVE)  
MICHAEL ALBANO, CONSTANCE FISHER  
NANCY HERMISTON, DAVID WALSH  
MARK MORASH, STEVEN RALLS, DON TARNAWSKI  
PETER BERGAMIN (STUDENT CONDUCTOR)  
ROBIN WHEELER (STUDENT REPETITEUR)  
MICHAEL ALBANO  
TINA ORTON

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## PRODUCTION STAFF

Director of Theatre Operations/ Lighting Designer  
Stage Manager  
Assistant Stage Manager  
Technical Assistants

FRED PERRUZZA  
JENNIFER O'CONNER+  
MARY HARWELL+  
JIM EARLS, SCOTT THOM

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Costume Co-ordinator  
Wardrobe Mistress  
Seamstresses  
Wigs & Make-up  
Assistants

DIANE McCANN-DAVIS  
JOANNE MASSINGHAM  
LEISA BELLMORE, TANIA ETIENNE  
MARTHA GLEESON  
SAMANTHA RUMBALL, KELLY McCALLUM

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Props  
Scenic Artists  
Stage Crew

ANNE WEBSTER  
RICHARD MONGIAT, LINDSAY PICKERSGILL  
SEAN BAKER, CHRIS BROOKS, ROY CAMERON,  
PETER COCKRANE, JOHN CUTHBERTSON, MARK FORLER,  
DAVID HOOKSTRA, CHRIS HUMPHREY, DAVID PETROVITCH  
PAUL QUESNEL

+ By permission of Canadian Actor's Equity Association

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The Faculty of Music cordially invites you to attend other events in the Edward Johnson Building. Throughout the year, there are many recitals by Faculty members and students, as well as orchestra, band, choral, jazz and opera performances. Information is available in the Calendar of Events, which may be picked up in the Main Lobby near the Box Office. For more information, telephone 978-3744.

Contributions for the scholarships or operating funds (payable to the University of Toronto and directed to the Faculty of Music) are most welcome and are eligible for a receipt for income tax purposes. Please address donations or enquiries to Professor Paul Pedersen, Dean, Faculty of Music, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1. Telephone 978-3761.

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
FACULTY OF MUSIC  
OPERA DIVISION

*presents*

# *A French Trilogy*

DEBUSSY: *L'Enfant Prodigue*

MASSENET: *Le Portrait de Manon*

OFFENBACH: *M. Choufleuri*

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FRIDAY, MARCH 1

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

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*MacMillan Theatre*

EDWARD JOHNSON BUILDING

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\$20 ; \$15 STUDENTS/SENIORS  
TICKETS AVAILABLE FEB. 1

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On Friday evening, Oliver Dawson is singing the role of Tom Rakewell and Brian Nickel is singing the role of Nick Shadow.